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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 000844

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/FO ELISA CATALANO, ISN/RA, AND EUR/CE
JAMIE MOORE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/23/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [EU](#) [PARM](#) [IR](#) [HU](#)

SUBJECT: HUNGARY'S VIEW ON IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM AND NEXT
STEPS

REF: SECSTATE 120288

Classified By: Political Officer Jon Martinson, reasons 1.4 (b,d)

[¶1.](#) (C) PolOff met November 23 with Mark Horvath, the MFA's Office Director for non-proliferation issues to discuss reftel. Although not a member of the IAEA Board of Governors, Horvath said that Hungary will use its "small voice" to promote active IAEA action on the Iran issue. He commented that the UK suggested including Iran on the December GAERC agenda based on the recent turn of events in response to the P5 plus 1 engagement and the IAEA report.

[¶2.](#) (C) Referencing sanctions, Horvath noted the reluctance of some EU members, but commented that Iran's current behavior helps support the argument for a stronger response. While Hungary would like to see the UNSC take further action on sanctions, Horvath believes Russia and China would be reluctant to do so. As such, Horvath said that the EU should be prepared to tighten its own sanctions, stressing that Hungary fully supports autonomous, effective, and meaningful sanctions.
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